

Family Support Group met every Wednesday to discuss the ways in which they could best support family members of the mobilized soldiers. On Saturdays, they frequently showed videos of the mobilized soldiers stationed in Hungary and provided access to e-mail for communication between soldiers and their family members.

Each and every family member deserves recognition, but at the risk of leaving someone out, I would like to mention the following officers of the 452d Family Support Group: Sandy Robinson, South Dakota Reserve Family Support leader; Ronnie Evenson, unit leader; Becky Parker, group leader; Lois Beckner, group leader; Mary Ewalt, group leader; and Donna Schulte, assistant group leader.

I would also like to mention the important service provided by the unit members who were not mobilized, but who remained in South Dakota and provided the ever-important moral support to their colleagues serving overseas. These individuals, including mechanics, administrative personnel, and others, continue to ensure that the unit is ready to serve their nation at a moment's notice.

It is also important to recognize those employers who stood by their employees called upon to serve their nation. The commitment of employers like these allow our country to rely so heavily on its reserve and guard forces.

It is with much relief and pride that I join the family members of the 452d and all South Dakotans in welcoming the following troops safely home from their mission. It is from this service that the 452d has formed a strong bond with the community of Aberdeen and the State of South Dakota, and I thank them for their service.

Sgt. Brian Allmendinger, Spc. Joellen Allmendinger, Spc. J. Arlt, Spc. Travis Atkinson, 1st Sgt. Troy Beckner, Spc. Michael Bell, S.Sgt. Chad Bierman, Sgt. Kirk Bierschenk, Sgt. Scott Black, Pfc. Wileen Blacklance, Spc. Hollie Breitag, S.Sgt. Rodney Buck, CW2 Aaron Donat, Sgt. Eric Donat, S.Sgt. Joel Donat, S.Sgt. Mark Dunwoody, Sfc. Ronald Evenson, S.Sgt. Michael Ewalt, Sgt. Janel Fonder, Spc. Robin Freeland, Sgt. Calvin Gardner, Sgt. Chad Gardner, Sgt. Brian Grabowska, Sgt. Kevin Gustafson, Sgt. Daniel Haberling, Spc. Kristi Heintzman, S.Sgt. Brabdon Herold, Sgt. Adam Heyd, Spc. Joshua Horner, Sgt. Sean JOHNSON, S.Sgt. Stanley Kannas, Spc. Justin Kappes, Sgt. Daniel Karst, Sgt. Jyson Karst, S.Sgt. Daryl Kiefer, S.Sgt. Gary Kindle, Spc. Deric Knutson, Sgt. Deidra Kolb, S.Sgt. Gene Kopetsky, S.Sgt. Donald Kraemer, S.Sgt. Scott Lane, Sfc. THOMAS Mailloux, S.Sgt. David Manning, Sgt. Philip Marnette, Spc. Rebecca McGannon, Pfc. Shawn Nash, Spc. John Naumann, Spc. Britt Nelson, Sgt. Jeffrey Norden, Spc. Benjamin Ochs, 1st Lt. Kritina Ochsner, Sgt. Lance Ordal, S.Sgt. Darrell Pfeifle, Sgt. Jerry Plank, Spc. Derrick Quitsch, Spc.

Jammy Rawden, CW4 Freddie Robinson, S.Sgt. Kevin Roush, S.Sgt. Jason Rydberg, Spc. Joshua Ryowski, S.Sgt. Todd Salfrank, Sgt. Robert Sayer, Sgt. Justin Scepaniak, S.Sgt. Paul Schilling, Sgt. Dawn Schlotte, 1st Lt. John Schulte, Sgt. Jeffrey Severson, Spc. Cassandra Shaffer, Sgt. Michael Stofferahn, Sgt. Kenneth Sutton, Sgt. Wade Taylor, Sgt. Tonda THOMAS, S.Sgt. Terry Thue, Sgt. Joseph Thyne, WOC David Trego, S.Sgt. Chad Vetter, S.Sgt. Tamera Voss, Sgt. James Welch, Spc. Charles Willis, Sgt. Shannon Wright, and S.Sgt. Kenneth Young.●

INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE REFORM

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, in recent days, Chairman MCCAIN and I have addressed the Commerce Committee's communications agenda for next year. I expect the Communications Subcommittee, which I chair, to have an active and full slate of issues as we approach the second session of the 105th Congress.

Chairman MCCAIN and I have agreed that the Communications Subcommittee will hold a series of oversight hearings on the implementation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. We will examine the degree to which the act has met its objectives of promoting competition and deregulation. We will examine the level of competition in the local and long-distance markets, between cable companies and alternative video providers, competition in the wireless industry and other important issues. We will devote considerable attention to interconnection issues and universal service.

I would like to address in some depth an issue that will be one of the most important issues before the Communications Subcommittee, that of international satellite reform.

The Communications Subcommittee has already begun to examine the international satellite communications market. On July 25 of this year, the subcommittee held a very informative hearing on this vital issue. We learned of the need for further changes in the regulation of the international market. We need to promote greater competition internationally while lifting unneeded regulations domestically. The issues in this debate are complex—they involve trade policy, fair treatment for those with existing investments, allocations of spectrum and orbital slots, market access, and elimination of outdated regulations.

Recently, my colleague from Hawaii, Senator INOUE, introduced S. 1328, which is virtually identical to a bill introduced earlier this year in the House by Chairman Bliley. Senator INOUE has stated that he hopes his bill will help "spur debate on this important issue." I share this hope. Senator INOUE's bill has been referred to the Commerce Committee. I look forward to working with him and others next year to develop an appropriate inter-

national satellite policy for the future, and also to address other domestic satellite issues.

As we move forward, I am going to be guided by the principles of former President Ronald Reagan. In 1984, President Reagan signed an Executive order that effectively eliminated outdated regulations and allowed U.S.-licensed satellite companies to compete around the world. That competition has resulted in greater consumer choices, lower prices, and the ability to reach anyone anywhere in the world.

Now as we approach the turn of the century, we need to complete President Reagan's vision. The Satellite Act, which was enacted in 1962 at a time when satellites were still experimental, has become outdated. This country cannot afford to have an industry guided by rules that were created in the days of Sputnik. We need to look forward at ways to roll back unwarranted regulations and fully unleash the potential that this industry holds.

I share the goals of increasing competition, privatizing intergovernmental organizations, and enhancing market access abroad for American satellite companies. Any legislative action should be designed to promote opportunities for American businesses, while making sure they are not harmed by the very effort that seeks to enhance their ability to succeed in the international marketplace. These are extremely complex issues and there may be different paths that lead to the same goals. The approach the subcommittee will take in further exploring these issues will be balanced. We will examine in detail how best to eliminate outdated regulations, address universal service concerns and provide for the needed flexibility to achieve an international agreement on satellite policy.

I will continue to work with the Communications Subcommittee on this critical issue. I look forward to holding further hearings, and intend to develop legislation with Chairman MCCAIN, ranking member HOLLINGS, Senator INOUE, and other committee members to establish fair rules that are competitively neutral for the international market.●

THE "ONE GOOD COW" PROJECT

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of two outstanding Montana cattlemen, Michelle Tebay and Lisa Schmidt of Whitehall, MT.

This past year has been tough in Montana and across the West for many cattle producers. They incurred severe losses due to floods and blizzards. But thanks to the hard work and vision of Michelle Tebay and Lisa Schmidt, hope is on the horizon. They initiated a project called "One Good Cow," and it certainly deserves our attention.

In Montana, we pride ourselves on looking out for one another—especially

during challenging times. When Michelle heard about all the cattle losses Western ranchers were suffering, she contacted Lisa who works as an Ag Extension agent for Madison and Jefferson Counties. Together, the two women formulated a plan. And, that plan was to convince ranchers who survived the storms to help the less fortunate replenish their herds. The dream has become reality.

Today, the "One Good Cow" project is working to collect and transport 80,000 healthy, pregnant cows to folks who lost significant portions of their herds last winter. And the good news is that their fellow ranchers from across the Nation are donating these cattle. This teamwork has resulted in success for all. It has even gained national media attention and will be featured on national TV network news later this week.

The "One Good Cow" program is a prime example of how ranchers from all over the United States can work together in times of adversity. That shouldn't surprise anyone. Ranchers have always relied on each other as they face the worst that Mother Nature has to offer.

But the real credit goes to Michelle and Lisa. Mr. President, it is impossible to count the number of lives that will be touched by their idea. I would just like to add my voice to all the others and say "Thank you, so much, Michelle and Lisa."

I encourage all of my colleagues to become familiar with the "One Good Cow" Program and give it their full support. Our ranchers are depending on it.●

PROTECTION OF U.S. BORDERS

● Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, when we convene for the second session of the 105th Congress, I will introduce legislation which will authorize the U.S. Customs Service to acquire the necessary personnel and technology to execute their duties at our international borders with Mexico and Canada. Specifically, my proposal is designed to reduce delays at border crossings to not more than 20 minutes, while maintaining—in fact, strengthening—our commitment to interdict illegal narcotics and other contraband.

In working with local officials, businesses, the Border Trade Alliance, and several of my colleagues, it has become evident that the best way to accomplish these objectives is to increase Customs staffing and provide the technological resources that can give them the best chance at accomplishing their mission. Customs staffing needs to be increased significantly to facilitate the flow of substantially increased traffic on both the Southwestern and Northern borders. The practical effect of these personnel increases will be to open all the existing primary inspection lanes where congestion is a problem during peak hours and enhance investigative resources on the Southwest border.

I am very concerned about the impact on Texas and the Nation of narcotics trafficking and have worked closely with Federal and State law enforcement officials to identify and secure the necessary resources to battle the onslaught of illegal drugs. At the same time, however, our current enforcement strategy—which is burdened by insufficient staffing and a virtual absence of vital interdiction technology—is effectively closing the door to legitimate trade.

Long traffic lines at our international crossings serve no useful purpose and are counterproductive to improving our trade relationship with Mexico. At a time when NAFTA and the expanding world marketplace are making it possible for us to create more commerce, freedom, and opportunity for people on both sides of the border, it is important that we eliminate the border crossing delays that are stifling these goals.

My bill will be designed to shorten those lines and promote legitimate commerce, while providing the Customs Service with the means necessary to eliminate the drug trafficking operations that are now rampant along the 1,200-mile border that my State shares with Mexico. I will be speaking further to my colleagues about this initiative and urge their support for the bill.●

FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I want to offer some thoughts on the proposed fast-track legislation.

A number of other Members have made some excellent points on this subject, in large part reflecting my own views.

This is especially true of the comments made by the senior Senator from West Virginia [Mr. BYRD], and I want to commend him for his constancy on this critical issue of preserving the constitutional role of Congress in matters of trade.

He has rightly framed this issue, not as a question of favoring or opposing free or fair trade, but as a question of what role Congress plays in trade agreements.

Mr. President, the fast-track proposal we are considering, and its predecessors, are quite recent inventions.

Prior to the Tokyo round of the GATT, there was no fast-track mechanism.

In fact, of the hundreds and hundreds of trade agreements our Nation has negotiated and entered into, only five have used the fast-track procedures.

Mr. President, this should dispose of the argument that fast track is necessary for us to negotiate trade agreements.

Fast track has been the exception, not the rule, with regard to trade negotiations.

I understand this Administration has negotiated and implemented over 200 trade agreements without fast track.

What were some of those agreements?

Well, Mr. President, they included: the market access agreement with Argentina for textiles and clothing; the market access agreement with Australia for textiles and clothing; the agreement on bilateral trade relations with Belarus; the market access agreement with Brazil for textiles and clothing; an agreement concerning intellectual property rights with Bulgaria; an agreement between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Cambodia on trade relations and intellectual property rights protection; the agreement on salmon and herring with Canada; the agreement on ultra-high temperature milk with Canada; the agreement on trade in softwood lumber with Canada; the agreement on intellectual property rights protection with Ecuador; a memorandum of understanding on trade in bananas with Costa Rica; several agreements with the European Union; an agreement on intellectual property rights protection with India; several dozen agreements with Japan; several dozen agreements with Korea; and many, many more agreements with dozens of other countries.

And not only bilateral agreements, Mr. President, but also multilateral agreements such as the complex Multilateral Agreement on Investment, the Information Technology Agreement, and the Telecomm Agreement—these last two having been both negotiated and implemented without fast-track procedures.

Indeed, Mr. President, the phrase "fast-track negotiating authority" is a misnomer.

The President already has the authority to negotiate and implement trade agreements.

That broad authority was most recently extended indefinitely to the President as part of the 1994 GATT Uruguay round implementing legislation.

That authority, called "Proclamation Authority," has its roots in the Reciprocal Trade Act of 1934, which allowed a President to "enter into foreign trade agreements * * * and to proclaim such modifications of existing duties and other import restrictions * * * as are required or appropriate to carry out any foreign trade agreement."

Mr. President, while the ability to negotiate and enter into international agreements are inherently part of the President's constitutional powers, the Constitution grants exclusive authority to Congress "to regulate Commerce with foreign nations."

Congress has sole constitutional authority over setting tariff levels and making or changing federal law.

With the 1934 act, though, Congress delegated some of its authority to the President when the number and frequency of trade negotiations began increasing.

It is under this "Proclamation Authority" that President Clinton has negotiated and entered into over 200 trade agreements.